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Scorched by the Limelight.
If the press, plutocratic or otherwise,
were desirous of presenting Jeff Davis
in the most favorable light, it would be
necessary to eliminate all mention of him
from the news columns.

For what he says and what he does
are the worst possible commentary on his
character and attachments. His acts and
his talk expose him—merely the held
truths of his life and his character.
And yet the very last request he would
make of the press would be that it ignore
the serious damage he is doing his Sen-
atorial reputation and that of a sovereign
State.

We concede the towering genius of Mr.
George Bernard Shaw. Nothing short of
a superman could find it in his heart to
reject one thousand dollars of legitimate
easy money!

England's Trend Toward Protection.
The defeat of Winston Churchill in the
Manchester election appears to fore-
shadow the ultimate triumph of protec-
tion over free trade in British politics.
Mr. Churchill made that the direct issue;
and although it was complicated by sev-
eral others of more immediate interest,
the defeat of a free-trade candidate at
the stronghold of Cobdenism is enough to
make Cobden and Bright turn in their
graves. The idea of protecting the home
market against foreign competition is
making headway in England, and it
seems a great change is about to take place
in British fiscal policy. If so, the foremost
manufacturing and trading nation will
have surrendered to a tendency operating
throughout the whole civilized world.

We refer to the tendency to a protective,
paternalizing, and paternalistic policy
on the part of governments. This policy
is making headway in every country, and
is losing one, and the part of government
in the promotion of trade and industry is
everywhere increasing. It is in reality a
revival of medievalism adapted to modern
conditions. The old restrictions upon
commerce and business finally overthrown
by the development of the idea of liberty
are returning upon us in fresh guises.
Tariffs, trusts, and labor unions, and an
increasing mass of regulatory legislation,
impose all sorts of conditions on the free
movement of capital and labor, and on
transactions of every description between
man and man. Free trade nowhere exists,
and economic liberty is becoming a
fiction. There is no more discredited
body of economic doctrine than that of
the Manchester school—discredited both
by the logic of events and by the develop-
ment of theory correspondent with an
enlarged and humaner view of the indus-
trial functions of society. The pendulum
is swinging between individualism and
socialism, with a marked attraction to-
ward the latter creed, or some substitute
for it that will attain much the same
end.

No one now dreams of the overthrow
of protection in this country. In fact,
the tendency is the other way, for in
spite of all the agitation against the ex-
tension of governmental favoritism, the
area over which the protective doctrine
applies is steadily growing. As the pro-
tection principle makes for national ag-
grandizement at the expense of other
countries competing in the same sphere,
it is only a matter of time when England
will be forced to self-defense, to adopt a
like policy of retaliation and self-agran-
dizement. That time is apparently but a
few years distant.

Senator Foraker recently advised Sen-
ator Davis to "speak a little louder." Sen-
ator Davis seems to think he was
advised "to speak a little louder."

Where the Negro Is Happiest.
There is a relation between the race—
largely prevalent in the South, especially
—that all must admit, and a splendid ex-
ample of it is found in this little item
clipped from the Abbeville (S. C.) Press
and Banner, where it was modestly and
inconspicuously displayed along with
other little stories of human interest of
the day, as viewed in that community:

"Caroline, who has been employed by the Meers,
Hill & Sons as a day-laborer, died last
Thursday at an advanced age. The fact that
she remained in the employ of the same people for so
long a time is complimentary to both employer and
employee. For quite a while she has not been able
to work, but the Meers, Hill and Sons pay her regu-
larly at the end of the month, as they did when
she was able to perform the work engaged to do
thirty-five years ago."

Caroline, so the story goes on to say,
was an "old-time" negro, devoted to
those with whom she had been asso-
ciated all of her life, and generally be-
lieved by all who knew her. She never
dreamed any dream of "social equality,"
and she was the happiest for it. Her
life work was to do well the tasks al-
lotted to her, and in an orderly and un-
ostentatious manner. She never sought
to hitch her chariot to a star; she cared
only to deserve the respect and esteem
in which she was held—and, in conse-
quence, both were lavished upon her gen-
erously and fully.

The South is generally of Caroline's,
and their children. The type is by no means
uncommon. They are not the ones howl-
ing for "social equality," however
neither are they the ones who play stellar
parts at lynchings, in police courts,
around cheap dives, and in the "chain
gangs." On the contrary, they are held
in the warmest affection by those with
whom they come in contact, and are
treated with a consideration and kind-
ness that is inconceivable by those who
do not know either from intelligent ob-
servation or reliable hearsay.

The negro, if he knew it, may be
happier in the South than anywhere

else in this country. Nowhere else are
his weaknesses so well understood; now-
here else is it so strenuously sought to
protect him against himself and his own
misfortunes and limitations. Negroes
who leave the South are prone to wander
back; the greater percentage of them do
—because, after all is said and done, the
truth is, in no other section have he the
same opportunity for real happiness that
he has in Dixie.

Perhaps that Massachusetts man who
asked to have his salary reduced from
\$2,400 per annum to \$1,500 figured that
the advertising sure to result would be worth
in the long run considerably more than
the \$900 directly lost in the transaction.

The Naval Title Fuss.
The celebration of the defeat of the
project to allow naval staff officers to
have the rank and title of their respective
grades is made the occasion in the New
York Sun of some references which are
unfair to that branch of the personnel of
the naval establishment. It is no argu-
ment against the conference of these
titles to refer to the situation in such
words as these:

"But the war proceeds as feverishly as ever in the
drawing-rooms and bookshelves of Washington, and
there at least the staff officers are winning impossi-
ble if bloodless victories—the only kind permitted
by their occupations. Upon these attractive fields,
around the dinner tables, and in the society col-
umns of the newspapers, the doctors, communicants,
constructors, etc., swagger unimpeded with their
warlike labels, the pomp and pomposity of conflict in
riotous evidence."

It is such uncomplimentary and unfair
comparisons which have precipitated this
service controversy; and if there is any
condition which has made this possible it
must be in the titles which the staff
officers want and which many line offi-
cers believe they should have without
the invidious distinctions which now ex-
ist. The persistency with which it is
made manifest that there is a part of
the naval personnel which is not of the
"fighting" sort constitutes a grievous
feature of the whole ridiculous agitation.

This is emphasized by the same New
York paper in quoting from a circular
issued from the headquarters of the So-
ciety of American Wars in Washington
announcing the results of the annual elec-
tion of officers, with "Admiral" H. T.
B. Harris as commander general, and
with "Admiral" George Dewey as a vice
commander general. Attention is called
to the fact that H. T. B. Harris is
simply a former Paymaster General of
the Navy, and that there is really only
one admiral in our navy, the other "ad-
mirals" being rear admirals. The same
list contains the name of "Gen." George
A. Woodward, U. S. A., as another vice
commander general; but the New York
paper fails to observe that there is no
"general" in the United States army, all
the "generals" being brigadiers or major
generals. Yet in the army the question
of titles has created so little disturbance
that Gen. Woodward continues to be a
"general," although, in matter of fact, he
is only a brigadier. The same indifference to line
and staff titles in the army might possibly be
introduced profitably into the naval service.
Then an officer might be called "ad-
miral" when he was really a rear admiral,
or be called rear admiral when he is re-
ceiving the pay of that grade and is en-
joying that so-called relative rank.

Incidentally, it would be a good thing
for the navy to have the conditions at-
tending the personnel so adjusted that
an officer who looks after food and cloth-
ing, who attends the sick and injured, or
who designs and constructs would be
regarded as the equivalent of the officer who
stands out in the line to navigate, or who
has something to do with the direction of
gun fire. In time of war that part of the
military and naval services which have
to do with supplying food and looking
after the wounded is considered of im-
mense value, and most people who are
not impregnated with the prejudices of
the service regard all officers as of the
"fighting" personnel when they are a
part of the fighting machine. The gun
that starts the projectile on its mission
of destruction is quite as essential as
the devastating missile itself.

Now we are informed that the average
price of rare coins has fallen because the
late panic forced so many of them into
circulation. The problem of finding some
line of business not hit by the depression
seems utterly hopeless.

The Springfield Republican, commenting
on Joseph H. Choate's recent declaration
in favor of Taft, notes the probability
that the competition of the Supreme
Court will be one of the issues of the
Presidential campaign. The next Presi-
dent, whoever he may be, will undoubtedly
be, through the power of appointment,
exercise a considerable influence over the
complexion of that court. "It is but
stating a palpable fact," says our con-
temporary, "to say that the future of
the court is more in men's minds to-day
than during any previous Presidential
struggle in years." Mr. Choate recognized
this fact by asserting that Mr. Taft might
be depended on to appoint to the Supreme
bench "the men best suited by merit and
fitness to maintain the high character of
that great tribunal which is still the sheet
anchor of our ship of state." This point
in Mr. Taft's favor Mr. Choate frankly
admitted to be "of infinite importance" in
his mind. The Republican looks forward
to a time when the composition of the
court may be regarded as one of the great
prizes of politics, and its responsiveness
to public opinion a matter of course. "A
body," says that paper, "that is engaged
in changing the Constitution of the United
States, whether by interpretation or not,
ought to be ultimately responsible to the
people; and as the people become more
and more conscious of the fact that
judicial construction is nowadays more
practicable and far more commonly em-
ployed than the amendment process pro-
vided in the Constitution itself, it seems
certain that they will insist upon having
that body, in plain English, where they
can get at it."

It may be plausibly argued that the
Supreme Court, in the long run, is found
in harmony with the sober judgment
of the people. Our history shows that
the court has never been blind to politi-
cal tendencies, which it has indeed some-
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